GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1403
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2004
PAYMENTS TO PRODUCERS
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Doordarshan makes full payment to the producers without having their programme in hand;

(b) if so, the number of producers violated the terms of contract during the last three years;

(c) the losses suffered by the D.D. by not getting the money back from producers;

(d) whether Prasar Bharati Board has cleared the self-Financed Commissioning which provided that a producer will make a programme at his `own risk and cost` and DD`s role would be confined to marketing and telecasting;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c): Prasar Bharati has informed that as per the commissioned guidelines approved by Prasar Bharati Board on 13.8.2002, the release of funds to the producers is done as follows:

(i) signing of agreement and script approval 30%

(ii) approval of rough cuts 30%

(iii) on approval of final product (including the Chartered Accountant`s certificate) 40%

Delhi Doordarshan Kendra has informed that they have not commissioned any programme during the last five years. Hence, the question of payment does not arise.

(d) to (f): Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati Board has approved a scheme on 14.10.2004 of Self Financed Commissioning (SFC). Under this Scheme, the outside producer would be required to produce the programme at his own risk and cost. Prasar Bharati have informed that Doordarshan would market the programme, telecast it and make payment thereafter. Payment for the programme would be linked to its grading and viewership measured through TAM ratings. Prasar Bharati have further informed that this is, however, not presently being contemplated to be extended to documentaries.